

**Security Council**

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Letter dated 29 June 2017 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instruction from my Government, I have the honour to transmit the views of the Islamic Republic of Iran on the third report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolution 2231 (2015) (S/2017/515), as follows:

1. The statement of the Islamic Republic of Iran following the adoption of Security Council resolution 2231 (2015) endorsing the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action has been reflected in the annex to my letter dated 20 July 2015 (S/2015/550), and the positions contained therein, inter alia in paragraphs 11 and 13, are hereby reiterated.

2. The Islamic Republic of Iran remains fully committed to the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action as a multilaterally negotiated document that includes reciprocal commitments and requires implementation in "good faith and in a constructive atmosphere, based on mutual respect". The sustainment of the Plan is essentially dependent upon its balanced implementation by all parties concerned. This requires the political atmosphere for its successful implementation and, as asserted in paragraph 5 of the third report of the Secretary-General, "to ensure that all participants benefit from the Plan". The Iranian people have yet to fully benefit from the deal owing to the obstacles mainly created by the United States, which are partly reflected in annex I to the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolution 2231 (2015) (S/2016/589). The so-called "review policy" of the United States, accompanied by irresponsible rhetoric and a set of new designations and sanctions amounting to a clear violation of the commitments of that country, has further adversely affected Iran's benefiting from the deal and poses unprecedented risks to the Plan.

3. It is regrettable that the third report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolution 2231 (2015) ignores the core of that resolution, namely, the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action. This is neither justified nor helpful. As stated in my letters dated 17 July 2016 (S/2016/626) and 18 January 2017 (S/2017/51), any report on the implementation of resolution 2231 (2015) without the necessary information on the implementation status of the Plan does not provide the Security Council with a complete picture. We continue to urge the Secretariat to respect its mandated scope of reporting, as clearly stated in paragraph 7 of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2016/44).



4. It is claimed, in paragraph 16 of the report, and by virtue of an open source, that Iran had "flight-tested a ballistic missile". Although "there was no consensus among Council members on how that particular launch related to resolution 2231 (2015)", the report, in paragraph 9, opts paradoxically to "call upon the Islamic Republic of Iran to avoid such ballistic missile launches". It should be highlighted that the phrase "ballistic missiles designed to be capable of delivering nuclear weapons" in annex B to resolution 2231 (2015) is a distinctive phrase. The said phrase in no way limits the defensive missile programme of the Islamic Republic of Iran "designed" exclusively for conventional warheads. The Islamic Republic of Iran has never been on the path to acquiring nuclear weapons and will never be in the future. Meanwhile, paragraph 17 of the report of the Secretary-General cites a twisted reading of the text of the resolution that is not shared by all and is based on arbitrary criteria created by an exclusive export control regime formed outside the United Nations framework.

5. Paragraphs 10, 30 and 31 implicate the Secretariat's engagement in the examination of alleged arms seizures. Paragraph 10 of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2016/44) clearly notes that "the Security Council shall strive to take other actions related to ... examining and taking appropriate action on information regarding alleged actions inconsistent with the relevant restrictions, by consensus". Since there was no consensual decision of the Council, the Secretariat's activities in that regard are not mandated. Furthermore, the findings go beyond its capacity and are unsubstantiated.

6. The report is excessively based on open-source information and media outlets at the cost of its credibility. Consequently, the report is overwhelmed by irrelevant or unnecessary information, such as in paragraphs 26 to 28.

7. The report contains disinformation and sheer allegations in paragraphs 22, 23 and 32 to 34, as well as a number of irrelevant communications:

(a) Paragraph 22 refers to yet another letter from the Israeli regime, detailing false speculations regarding the name, range, performance and technical characteristics of a missile. The Israeli regime had previously sent other letters making allegations that were completely rejected by the Islamic Republic of Iran, as well as relevant parties and authorities (see para. 35). Such practice is a deliberate misuse of established United Nations procedures. For the reasons described in my letter dated 9 March 2017 (S/2017/205), the inclusion of such letters in the reports of the Secretary-General would lead only to the dissemination of false allegations, undermining the quality and credibility of the report;

(b) Paragraph 32 refers to two letters that lack any merit or evidence, one of which is also outdated. The letters are unrelated to the implementation of the resolution and serve only to shift the focus of the report of the Secretary-General. Surprisingly and regrettably, my letters and responses dated 16 November 2016 (A/71/617) and 4 May 2017 (S/2017/393) with regard to those communications have not been reflected in the report.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Gholamali **Khoshroo**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative